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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of Illinois
3 learned with regret of the death of Angelo Geocaris on
4 Saturday, December 20, 2003; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Geocaris was the child of Greek immigrants
6 living on the Southwest Side of Chicago; he graduated from
7 Parker High School in 1938; he was a 1942 graduate of the
8 University of Chicago with a degree in political science; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Geocaris valiantly served his country during
10 World War II in the U.S. Navy; he served in six combat missions
11 in the Pacific Theater of Operations; after college and his
12 years in the military, he attended law school at Northwestern
13 University, receiving a Juris Doctorate in 1948; and

14 WHEREAS, Following law school, Mr. Geocaris became active
15 in political fund-raising; he was chief executive officer of
16 the Illinois Liquor Control Commission in the early 1950s and
17 then an attorney for Cook County Sheriff Joseph Lohman; over
18 the years, he was a trusted friend to former U.S. Senator Paul
19 Douglas, Governor Adlai E. Stevenson, U.S. Senator Adlai
20 Stevenson III, Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, and U.S.
21 Senator Edmund S. Muskie, as well as to the donors who
22 bankrolled their runs for office; and

23 WHEREAS, Concurrent with his political work, Mr. Geocaris
24 built his own businesses; he married Irene Drake in 1948 and
25 then followed her father into the restaurant trade in 1960; he
26 also built a powerful law practice in Chicago, grew businesses
27 in real estate, trucking, and financial services, and became a
28 behind-the-scenes confidant to philanthropists and
29 politicians; through the years, Mr. Geocaris started a chain of
30 Barnaby's Family Inns pizza restaurants, and later, Little Lady
31 Foods, which supplies food to restaurants; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Geocaris has been a guest lecturer on business
2 issues at Northwestern University, Stanford University, the
3 University of Chicago, Northeastern Illinois University, and
4 the Lake Forest Graduate Business School, where he was voted
5 best guest lecturer of the year; and

6 WHEREAS, The passing of Angelo Geocaris has been deeply
7 felt by many, especially his wife, Irene; his sons, James,
8 John, and Daniel; his daughter, Connie; his sisters, Tessie
9 Pitt, Carol Argiris, Becky D'Angelo, and Sandra Sneider; his
10 brother James; and his eight grandchildren; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL
12 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
13 Angelo Geocaris, and we extend our deepest sympathy to his
14 friends, family, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
15 further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
17 presented to the family of Mr. Geocaris as an expression of our
18 sincere condolences.